



# LARC



Volume 51, Number 05

May 2011

## MAY 2011 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a GREAT Easter holiday.

For those that missed the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, the issue of purchasing the "Special Operations Trailer" was voted down by the membership by a 6 to 1 vote. It was agreed that the monies allotted in the 2010 budget to make some upgrades to the AMOS van would be carried over to this year's budget with board and membership approval. There will be a board meeting at 5:00 PM, just before the May General Meeting. A new budget for 2011-2012 will be discussed. I ask that all Board Members try to attend.

I also have a couple of ideas that I would like to share and maybe get some opinions.

On April 30, 1812 Louisiana became the 18<sup>th</sup> state admitted to the Union. The Louisiana flag originated from an 1800 design, but was officially adopted by the Louisiana State Legislature on July 1, 1912.

This would be a very good time for the AARA to get involved in a "Big" Special Event. Bi-centennial for the State and Centennial for the State Flag. This could go in conjunction with our AARA Hamfest on March 10 & 11, 2012. We could set up the station at the Civic Center and have unlimited operators on hand. Being that I am the trustee for the Salvation Army club call K5LSA (Louisiana Special Anniversary), I am sure that we could use that call or obtain a 1X1 special call. Well what do you think? Other clubs in the state could set up their own Special Event.

Another idea to get some interest with our local members (mostly Techs without HF privileges) is to set up a little contest that goes something like this:

Have a contest for Technicians that are in our area. They will make contacts on 2 meters or 440 using simplex, repeaters, or EchoLink. The first person to log 26 contacts with the suffix ending with A-Z will get a nice certificate and maybe a prize. They will need to log the Call, Name, Date, Time and Mode. A starting date will be announced and first to complete the 26 letters of the alphabet wins. I will set up a log in Adobe Acrobat that will be downloadable from the website. We will use the "Honor System" for logging so no QSL cards will need to be exchanged.

I have conversed with Nick Pugh K5QXJ (he is involved in recruiting young people into the hobby) and he is suggesting that a "Young Persons Net" be set up to further get them on the air. We have turned out quite a few new hams through the schools and Children's Museum of Acadiana, now we need to get them involved by holding their interest or we will lose them.

Don't forget, there will be a Board Meeting at 5:00 PM prior to the VE Test Session and General Meeting on Thursday, May 5, 2011.

Also the CajunMan Triathlon will take place September 11, 2011, we might want to get involved in this one, check out their website at:

<http://www.lafayettefitness.org/cajunmantri/Index.htm>

See you at the meeting!  
73 de KN5GRK  
Herman Campbell  
AARA President



## ARRL CLUB SURVEY

**Hello!**

The ARRL Programs and Services Committee is studying current benefits of ARRL Club Affiliation. We are interested in learning which benefits are important to affiliated clubs and what potential benefits affiliated clubs would like to see in the future. To that end, we've put together a survey to learn what benefits are being used; their importance and to get an idea of potential future benefits. The survey is open to all current club officers, past officers and club members.

The survey is located at: <http://www.bestvote.org/phpQ/fillsurvey.php?sid=31> and is open to May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Thank You, ARRL Programs and Services Committee

## May General Meeting

The May AARA General Meeting will take place on **Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** at the Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat Street, Scott, LA.

VE testing will be at 6:00 PM for those wanting to test.

**Feel free to Bring some Door Prizes!**

## Board Meeting

There will be a AARA Board Meeting at 5:00 PM prior to the VE Test Session and General Meeting on May 5, 2011. All board members are requested to attend if possible. The 2011-2012 budget will be on the agenda.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### REGULAR MEETING

Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM  
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.  
Scott, LA

### HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Dayton Hamvention May 20-22  
Dayton, OH

ARCOS Swapmeet & Cookout  
May 7, 2011- Benton, LA

### Local 2-Meter Nets

#### Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA

#### Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA

#### Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

#### Friday

HEAL Net 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Only 1:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA

### AARA OFFICERS 2011-2012

**President - Herman Campbell**

**KN5GRK**

kn5grk@lusfiber.net

**Vice Pres. - Archie Hill W5AG**

**Secretary - Sandy Leblanc KE5KJF**

**Treasurer - Joy Breau N5YCS**

#### BOARD MEMBERS

**Irma Bookter - KE5UPK**

**Glen Thibodeaux - KF5FNP**

**Nick Romero - KE5MWX**

**Abigail Wilson - KF5BEW**

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

**Herman Campbell KN5GRK**

#### QSL MANAGER

**Roland Guidry - NA5Q**

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Galen Wilson - KF5BET**

**337-298-3804 - galenw@cox.net**

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**Acadiana Amateur Radio Association**  
P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of  
each month at 7:00 p.m. at the  
American Red Cross Building  
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

## A THOUSAND MARBLES

The older I get, the more I enjoy Saturday mornings. Perhaps it's the quiet solitude that comes with being the first to rise, or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work. Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable. A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the garage with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the morning paper in the other. What began as a typical Saturday morning turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time. Let me tell you about it. I turned the dial up into the phone portion of the band on my ham radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning swap net. Along the way, I came across an older sounding chap, with a tremendous signal and a golden voice. You know the kind, he sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business. He was telling whom-ever he was talking with something about 'a thousand marbles.' I was intrigued and stopped to listen to what he had to say. 'Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet. It's too bad you missed your daughter's 'dance recital' he continued. 'Let me tell you something that has helped me keep my own priorities.' And that's when he began to explain his theory of a 'thousand marbles.' 'You see, I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. I know, some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live about seventy-five years. 'Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and I came up with 3900, which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime. Now, stick with me, Tom, I'm getting to the important part. It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail', he went on, 'and by that time I had lived through over twenty-eight hundred Saturdays.' 'I got to thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy. So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round up 1000 marbles I took them home and put them inside a large, clear plastic container right here in the shack next to my gear.' 'Every Saturday since then, I have taken one marble out and thrown it away. I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There's nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight.' 'Now let me tell you one last thing before I sign-off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure that if I make it until next Saturday then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time.' 'It was nice to meet you, Tom. I hope you spend more time with your family, and I hope to meet you again here on the band. This is a 75 Year old Man, K9NZQ, clear and going QRT, good morning!' You could have heard a pin drop on the band when this fellow signed off. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about. I had planned to work on the antenna that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few hams to work on the next club newsletter. Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife up with a kiss. 'C'mon honey, I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast.' 'What brought this on?' she asked with a smile. 'Oh, nothing special, it's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. And hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles. And so, as one smart bear once said. 'If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day, so I never have to live without you.' - Winnie the Pooh.

Submitted by Roland Guidry, NA5Q

**APRIL 2011 AARA MEETING MINUTES (edited)****CLUB MEETING:**

- The meeting was opened by the President Herman, KN5GRK.
- The opening prayer was by President Herman, KN5GRK.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
- There were 29 members and several guests in attendance.

**Minutes:**

The March Minutes were not read, due to being posted in the April LARC Newsletter. On a motion by Nick Romero, KE5MWX, seconded by Archie Hill, W5AG, the Minutes were approved as posted in the April issue of the LARC.

President, Herman, KN5GRK, asked everyone to give their name, call sign and if anything interesting happened last month. Herman introduced new members Ric Wallace, KF5KEL, and his wife Jackie Wallace, Don Strodman, NJ5X. Herman, KN5GRK, mentioned that Elton, KD5EHH, is now a silent key.

**Financial Report:**

The Financial Report was read by Joy, N5YCS. Copies of the March treasurer's report may be obtained by members from Joy Breaux, N5YCS, at: n5ycs@w5ddl.org

**Old Business:**

Herman, KN5GRK, mentioned that the membership needs to decide on what we plan to do about buying the Special Operations Trailer. Some members sent in e-mails giving their thoughts and opinions.

Danny Griffith, K5ARH, mentioned that the Club By-laws go by Robert's Rule of Order on the question of a Proxy Vote. A person not attending the meeting may not vote unless so stated in the Club By-laws.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Archie, W5AG, seconded by Paul, K5VSH, to buy the Spec. Ops. Trailer, retain antenna trailer, sell the large container building and within one year sell AMOS. The motion did not carry.

Motion was made by John, W4JHC, seconded by Fred, W5MLE, to buy the Special Operations Trailer. The motion did not carry.

Nick Romero, KE5MWX, mentioned that we have \$2000.00 budgeted to fix up AMOS.

Paul, K5VSH, mentioned that the Club does not have its own place. We should look into a place for our meetings and store Amos and equipment.

Calvin, KD5JCT, mentioned that he knows some people who have rental buildings near Ambassador Caffery. He will talk to them over the weekend.

Charlie, KI5XP, mentioned that you can operate Field Day from a club house.

Mark, KF5ENE, asked the purpose of AMOS. The purpose is to have a Mobile Operations Center and make our club visible to the public.

Paul, K5VSH, seconded by Archie W5AG, recommended to

the Board, assuming the budget will allow, fix Amos. The AMOS Committee is to look for a place for the Club to meet. The vote carried 13 for and 5 against.

Don mentioned that his trailer is available anytime for whatever. It sleeps 6.

**New Business:**

There will be a Board Meeting at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2011, at the Red Cross building.

Glen Thibodeaux, KF5FNP, Field Day Chairman, mentioned that Field Day will be at the Pavilion in Rayne on June 24 – 26. Glen will check into an air conditioned place for the food.

Approval was given for "Junk in the Trunk" at the Field Day.

Herman, KN5GRK, proposed a project to stimulate some activity within the Club. For those who only have VHF and UHF privileges, he suggested that we have a contest starting on a certain date. Make contacts with stations with the last letter in their call ranging from A-Z. The first person obtaining 26 contacts ending A-Z win some kind of prize. You must keep a log and use the "Honor System" in making your contacts, no QSL cards needed to be exchanged. Repeaters, EchoLink, and Simplex contacts will be allowed.

Herman, KN5GRK, adjourned the meeting. Refreshments were served and Fred W5MLE gave a presentation on "Proper Station Grounding".

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy LeBlanc  
KE5KJF

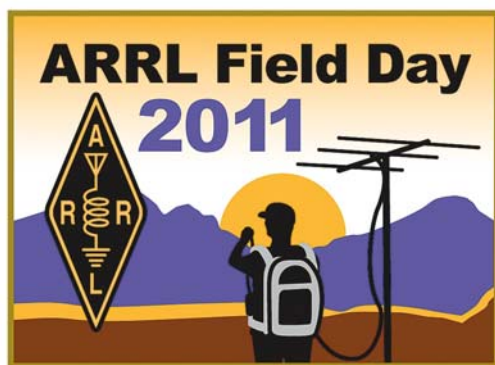


## NEW ABBEVILLE REPEATER ON LINE

Local ham radio operators met in Abbeville to install a new repeater in the 147.06 MHz / KC5Z slot. The previous Spectracom repeater which served Vermilion Parish for over 30 years was finally deemed unrepairable. A new Motorola repeater was donated for long term use by Keith Hendrick, WA5ISZ and is getting good reports on signal strength and voice quality. The repeater is now back on the air full time and will soon have a PL tone of 103.5. This is an open repeater and also serves as host to the Vermilion Parish ARES net. Thanks to Gerald Ognibene, KC5Z for his many years of service as the repeater's trustee. Other hams involved in the changeover and repair / inspection of the antenna and feed line were Weston Hebert, KB5WI; Arnold Lemaire, KE5JXC and Kris Wotipka, KD5QYV.



## Field Day 2011 is Coming...Are You Ready?



[www.arrrl.org](http://www.arrrl.org)

Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. Field Day 2011 will be held June 25-26, 2011.

Any Amateur Radio band except 12, 17, 30 and 60 Meters.

Entries must be postmarked, emailed or submitted by 2059 UTC Tuesday, July 26, 2011. Late entries cannot be accepted.

## MAY 2011 Special Events & Contests

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>May 1 thru 15</b>  | <b>Naval Aviation Museum/NAS N4A</b> - Pensacola, FL. Naval Air Centennial Celebration. 29.111, 21.311, 14.311, 7.211 N4A.     |
| <b>May 7</b>          | <b>WE7GV</b> - Green Valley, AZ—Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Titan Missile Museum. 14.245, 14.242                 |
| <b>May 14 thru 15</b> | <b>TM90LH</b> — Le Havre, France. Celebrating the 90th Anniversary of the Le Havre Radio Club. 14.290, 7.090, 3.690, 14.070PSK |
| <b>May 16 thru 21</b> | <b>W7AIA</b> - Nr Exeter, Devon, Great Britain. RSGB. Lee Shutter Telegraph over 200 years. 14.190                             |
| <b>May 21</b>         | <b>W9DUP</b> Westmont, IL. DuPage Amateur Radio Club. Armed Forces Day. 28.400, 14.290, 7.250, 3.885                           |
| <b>May 30</b>         | <b>W5KID</b> Baton Rouge, LA USS Kidd Memorial Day. CW QRP 20m, SSB 40m.   |

You can find more listings of Contests and Special Event Stations on page 92 in the May 2011 issue of QST.



## 2011 BIRTHDAYS

5/05	HAROLD	KE5UPL
5/06	JOHN	W4JHC
5/08	MELISSA	KF5CZA
5/11	DEBORAH	KC5VDM
5/19	TREY	KE5VYO
5/24	DIANNE	KD4OLQ
5/26	CHARLIE	KI5XP
5/26	KATHY	KD5TJZ
5/28	KATIE	KA6RKI
6/05	KAREN	KE5RPI
6/05	MARK	KE5NTW

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

## AARA Hamfest 2011 Photo Gallery

Photos from the AARA 51st Hamfest 2011 held in Rayne, Louisiana on March 11 & 12, 2011 have been uploaded to the website. Captions have been added to most of the pictures. The photo gallery can be found at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/events/hamfest2011/>

Herman  
KN5GRK

## SkyWarn Weather Event

On Friday April 15, 2011 a severe weather front moved through South Louisiana creating a tornado watch along the I-10 corridor. A SkyWarn Net was activated at 1452 on the Lafayette SkyWarn (145.37 pl 103.5) repeater. Herman KN5GRK volunteered to be the Net Control Station during this event. Ed Roy WA5TNK was supplying real time doppler radar information from the Lake Charles NWS. Gusty winds and heavy rains were reported in many areas of Acadiana as the front moved along I-10 toward Baton Rouge. No real damage to our local areas was reported. Those amateur stations checking in and reporting were: Ed WA5TNK, Greg AD5HA, Glen KF5FNP, John W4JHC, Dane W5DLD and Herman KN5GRK.



# APRIL 2011 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	5	26	2	60	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	33	0	71	KF5ENE Mark
Acadiana ARES Net	4	19	0	50	N5LRZ Ray
HEAL Net      *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	* 4M / 5G	0	17	KE5JKD Larry

Perform, then, this one act of remembrance before this Day passes - *Remember* there is an army of defense and advance that never dies and never surrenders, but is increasingly recruited from the eternal sources of the American spirit and from the generations of American youth. ~W.J. Cameron

## BLACK BEAR & BIRDING FESTIVAL SPECIAL EVENT STATION Franklin, Louisiana - April 16, 2011

Thank You to everyone who came out yesterday for the special event.



We had thirteen members and one XYL come out to help, to visit, to lend support for our endeavor and to operate and set up and take down. Quite an effort and thanks and congratulations to everyone. Herman, KN5GRK in Lafayette put this info on the LTN nearly every afternoon to publicize the event, and Saturday morning on HF he and Ken, AD5XJ, announced it on the Salvation Army Net for us.

It seems people in Franklin are a little more curious about ham radio than those in Morgan City, and we had several people come by, ask questions, they were given one of the CD's that Paul made up for studying, given some old copies of QST, gave them cards so they contact us later on and the reporter from the New Iberia paper was on hand to ask questions. The people associated with the BEAR Festival were very co-operative and helpful and COX cable went out of their way to provide internet service, thanks to Mike for being a BEAR and staying on this issue. From all the positive feedback I have received, I think we want to be part of this every year .

I don't have an exact count today, but it appears we made between 36 and 40 contacts on a combination of Echo Link, 40m and 20m. Not bad considering band conditions and time of day.

Thank each of you for your support.

73

Jackie KA5LMZ



A VE testing session at The Children's Museum of Acadiana on April 14, 2011.

The following are the results.

Carriane G. Linzer KF5FYK of New Iberia upgraded to General.

John T. Jordan of Lafayette passed Technician. KF5KSE

Remington K. Martin of Jeanerette passed Technician. KF5KSG

Christopher J. LeBlanc of Scott passed Technician. KF5KSH

Khaled Khattab of Lafayette passed Technician. KF5KSI

Grace E. Evanco of Lafayette passed Technician. KF5KSJ

James R. LeBlanc of Scott passed Technician. KF5KSK

Austin K. Martin of Lafayette passed Technician. KF5KSL

Michael D. Turner of Abbeville passed Technician. KF5KSM

Jude A. Thompson of St. Martinville passed Technician. KF5KSN

The VEs for this session were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH

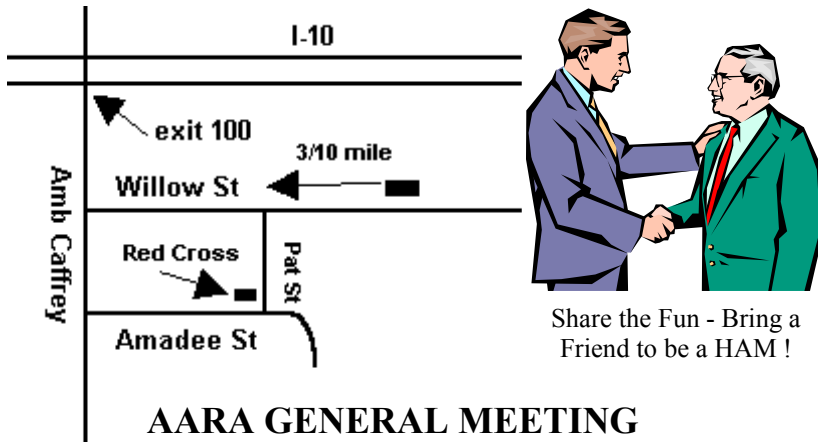
Greg Dolan K5LFT

Nick Pugh K5QXJ

Archie Hill W5AG

**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a  
Friend to be a HAM !

## **AARA GENERAL MEETING**

**May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 - 7:00 PM**

**VE Testing @ 6:00 PM**

**Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**

**Lunch Bunch**

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

Check 146.820 - repeater for info.

COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE



## **“Healthified” Spinach Dip**

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1 Packet dry vegetable soup mix              | 8oz Light sour cream     |
| 10oz Frozen Spinach, thawed and squeezed dry | 8oz 2% fat Greek yogurt  |
| 8oz Water chestnuts, chopped                 | 8oz Non fat Greek yogurt |

Mix ingredients in a bowl until well combined. Refrigerate for two hours before serving.

Enjoy with fresh vegetables, crackers or whole wheat pita chips.



Send your favorite recipes to:  
Galen KF5BET  
[galenw@cox.net](mailto:galenw@cox.net)

## **FCC Information Service**

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

**[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov)**

FCC Website:

**<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>**

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

**<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>**

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245